



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Office of Public Affairs
(202) 514-6551

Inmate Death at FCI La Tuna

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Friday, November 13, 2020, inmate Ross Tewangoitewa tested positive for COVID-19 and was placed in medical isolation at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) La Tuna in Anthony, Texas. On Friday, November 20, 2020, he was evaluated by institution medical staff for shortness of breath, and subsequently transported to a local hospital on the same day for further treatment and evaluation. On Saturday, December 12, 2020, Mr. Tewangoitewa, who had long-term pre-existing medical conditions, which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Tewangoitewa was a 74-year-old male who was sentenced in the District of Arizona to a 240-month sentence for Abusive Sexual Contact. He had been in custody at FCI La Tuna since January 11, 2020.

FCI La Tuna is a low security facility that currently houses 575 male offenders.

The Bureau of Prisons will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.

Additional information about the Bureau of Prisons can be found at www.bop.gov.

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